

The Semi-Weekly Louisianian.

"REPUBLICAN AT ALL TIMES, AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES."

VOLUME 2.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1872.

NUMBER 7.

The Louisianian.

Published Thursdays and Sundays.
Office 114 CARondelet STREET,
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

PROPRIETORS.

Wm. P. S. PINCHBACK, ORLEANS,
C. C. ANTOINE, CAMDO,
GEO. Y. KELSEY, RAPIDS.

Wm. G. BROWN, Editor.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: \$2.00
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Three Months, \$0.50.
Single Copies, 10 Cts.

POETRY.

[From the Daily Times.]
"TOO MANY IRONS IN THE FIRE."

BY C. E. V.

Whenever I see a beautiful girl
With rosy lips and teeth like pearls,
And smiling smile—which she tries on
To break and scatter a score of hearts.
To laugh and shout in her scornful glee,
Thinking to choose from all—she's free—
I long to whisper these words in her ear,
"Too many irons in the fire."
One will cool off and another be gone
Before she is ready to heat them all;
Others will burn like worthless bone—
Or fly in the air like a stone;
The coal will be gone—the fire all out
Before my lady sees what she's about.
So may I blow—and blow 'till she's fairly
Asleep!

ASSASSINATION

On Canal Street

WALTER H. WHELAN KILLED

His Men the Murderers

On Tuesday afternoon last, the

city of New Orleans, on

Canal street, became the scene of a

tragic scene. Hon. Walter H.

Whelan, member of the House of

Representatives from the parish of

Orleans, was shot in the side and

head.

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DEBATES IN THE SENATE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1872.

Mr. Campbell moved that the following resolution, offered by Senator Jenks, be referred to a committee of three, with instructions to report by resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to wait upon the Governor, and inform him that the Senate has thus far failed to obtain a quorum, and request him to send to the Senate any communication that he may have for our consideration.

Carried.

The President appointed Senators Campbell, McMillen and Harris.

The committee reported back a series of resolutions, as follows:

WHEREAS, A conspiracy is on foot in the city of New Orleans having for its object the subversion of the executive and legislative departments of the existing State government through unlawful combinations, embracing a portion of the members of both houses of the General Assembly, and through an appeal to the passions of the turbulent element in this city; and

Whereas, This conspiracy and attempt to excite revolution, menace the people of this city and State with the evils of anarchy, turmoil, bloodshed, robbery, arson and all the train of crimes which are the unavoidable accompaniments of revolution; and

Whereas, The pretended House of Representatives assembled over the Gen. saloon on Royal street has sought to conciliate and obtain the support of the better class of citizens by the publication of their purposes in regard to certain laws now in force in this State, purposes which they are utterly powerless to accomplish; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate of the State of Louisiana, That the action of those members of the Senate who have remained away from their seats for the past eight days, thus depriving this body of all power to ENACT REFORM, and relieve the people of the State of any real grievances by appropriate legislation, is reprehensible in the highest degree, and should meet the severest condemnation of the people of this State.

Resolved, further, That the action of the members of the House of Representatives who have voluntarily combined in an unlawful manner to enact legislation in other places than the hall of the House of Representatives, and who have appealed to the mob spirit for protection and support, is unworthy of the position to which they have been elected, and merits the disapproval of their constituents.

Resolved, further, That we are in favor of the most thorough and efficient legislative reform in all existing laws which experience has proven to work injury to the rights or property of the people of this State, and we heartily endorse the recommendations made by his Excellency the Governor in his annual message, this day delivered and read to the House of Representatives.

Resolved further, That we favor the reduction of the expenses of the General Assembly, and of the executive department of the government, to such an extent as to bring them within the means of the people of the State; the repeal of all laws creating unnecessary expenditures, and the modification of any law the abuse of which has infringed upon the political or personal rights of the citizens of this State so as to correct such abuses.

Mr. Campbell—Mr. President, I have merely to remark on these resolutions that they meet with my concurrence. What I might have desired myself, perhaps, might have been in some respects different, but at the same time, these resolutions include what I believe we all honestly intend to carry out. As a Senator of the State of Louisiana, I say openly and publicly, and I think my colleagues are in entire accord with me, that I am in favor of the inauguration of every single measure of reform which has been promised to the people by the mob assembled over the Gen. saloon on Royal street, headed by George W. Carter and a few Customhouse officials on the one side, and a few Democratic ward politicians on the other. The object of those men is not reform, but the transfer of the political power of the State. On the one hand they desire it to be a transfer from the hands of the present State government to the hands of George W. Carter and his associates. The

other branch of the conspiracy desire to transfer the control of the State and city governments from the hands of Republicans to the hands of Democrats of the John T. Monroe and July, '66, era. I say that we not only intend to adopt all the measures of reform which they pretend to desire, and have no intention of carrying out, but we have the means at our disposal to do so, which they have not. Not only have we the means and the disposition to secure the passage of these reformatory measures, but we possess this additional advantage—we can do it without a revolution and its usual results—riot, robbery, murder, and arson—which George W. Carter and his associates intend to inaugurate. We can do, without these evils, what he promises to do and can only do with them. I wish to state distinctly, in this connection, what I understand to be the elements composing this party of revolutionists. First, a few leading Republicans, who desire simply to transfer the State government from the hands of the present authorities to their hands; and, second, a few Democratic ward politicians. So far as a revolution is concerned, the two branches of conspirators are in perfect accord with each other, but when that shall have been accomplished, if it is accomplished at all by their roads diverge. When the revolution shall have reached a point where it will be beyond the power of the Republican conspirators to stay its progress, the Democrats propose to throw out of their offices every Republican State, municipal and parochial official, and then proceed to annul every result of the enforcement of the reconstruction laws of Congress. That I say boldly here, is the design of the Democratic confederates of these conspirators. I say furthermore (and I think my assertion will be carried out by the observation of every Senator present) that not a single Democrat of high standing, not a single Democrat who has the welfare of this State and city at heart, sympathizes with these conspirators and indorses their action. While I say this, Mr. President, I fully recognize the fact that a large number of the good, influential and respectable citizens of the State of all parties feel seriously and sorely the results of excessive taxation and the abuse of certain laws. I, for one, as a Senator, as I said in my seat last session, in reply to a question by Senator Thomas, am willing to repeal or modify the revenue laws of the State so that taxation will be greatly reduced. I am willing to reduce the number and the fees of the officers engaged in the collection of the revenues, so that the expense of their collection may be reduced to their minimum. I am willing to provide by law for the reduction to a specified and moderate sum of the annual expenses of the General Assembly. I am even willing to go further, and amend the registration and election laws, so that the expenditures under those laws may be controlled by the different parishes in which the election takes place. I am willing to amend them so far that the commissioners and supervisors shall be ineligible to any office at the election which they hold, and shall be residents of the parishes they are in. Every one of the measures of reform which these revolutionists pretend to desire in order to secure the moral support of this community, I undertake to say that the Senate of Louisiana, by these resolutions, is pledged to inaugurate without any violence, and without any compromise, while I am willing to do all this, Mr. President, I say distinctly and emphatically to George W. Carter and his associates that I would rather take such steps in defiance of their revolutionary conduct as would politically behead me; that I would rather stand in my place here and see them out from control the legitimate Legislature of this State, and put in their own in-

struments instead, than to take one step backward in the course which the Legislature and the State government have adopted for the protection of that class of the people to which you, sir, belong, and which has elected us as Republicans here. I refer to that class of legislative measures which the excitement and the riots and the danger through which we passed at previous periods made it necessary for this General Assembly to enact, in order to throw its protecting arm around the colored people of the State. If George W. Carter and his co-conspirators intend to play into the hands of the revolutionary Democrats, as I believe they do, in wiping from the statute books all those laws which were enacted for the protection of the colored people, in order to throw them back into the condition in which they were when this Legislature first met here. I say, let the consequences be what they may, that I will never take a step backward, nor aid them in the execution of their designs. I am glad to learn, as I do to-day, that some persons high in federal position here, have said that they withdraw from this conspiracy; that they are satisfied that Mr. Carter means the betrayal of the Republican party and the betrayal of the colored people into the hands of the Democratic mob (not of the Democratic party) and that they will have no further let nor part in the matter. If they continue much longer in their revolutionary action, I believe that the eyes of all will be opened to their designs. To sum up briefly, I repeat that every reform that will lessen in any manner the expenditure of the public money, every reform that will prevent corruption, every reform that will tend to lighten the load of taxation upon the people, every reform that will protect them from the abuse of any law, I am pledged to support; but I am opposed to any conspiracy which under the pretense of aiming at the reforms, aims at the destruction of Republicanism here, and the trampling under foot of all the safeguards which the law has thrown around the colored people of the State.

Mr. Lynch—Mr. President, I think it proper that some action should be taken by the seventeen Senators who are meeting from day to day, to make known their views in reference to the present condition of affairs—not to make pledges and promises, but simply to express what are our designs, or what we have in view. The resolutions which have been introduced seem to have three objects in view. They first refer to the absent members of the Senate, and condemn that absence because it prevents from doing that which it has been proclaimed by the mob it was their desire to do. We are here, sir, ready to act and enact laws that will reform any abuse that may exist, or correct any evil that hasy or improper legislation may have created. We are here, I say, to act, but our hands are tied by the absence of these Senators, who have seen fit to break the quorum of the Senate, thereby preventing us from giving the State the benefit of any modifications that we might make in laws which may be considered unjust or unwise. The action of these Senators in absenting themselves from their seats, merits the greatest condemnation at the hands of the people of Louisiana. I am not prepared to condemn them all without a hearing; I do not say that some of them are absent without any good excuse; but I do say that an expression on our part of disapproval of their course is eminently proper. If these men desire reform, if they wish to modify any obnoxious laws, let them take their seats here and act with us, and not keep themselves as they are now doing, out of the jurisdiction of the State, so that we cannot even enforce the provisions of the constitution to compel their attendance. Some may suppose that we have nothing to do with those people who have assembled over a saloon on Royal street, and organized into what they call the "House of Representatives;" but it is proper that we should express our disapprobation of their

course, and we have done so in the resolutions now before the Senate. The next clause refers to the annual message of Excellency the Governor, in which several specified reformatory measures are recommended. We pledge ourselves as Senators to take such action as will secure to the people the results of those recommendations. We have been here a week for that purpose; we are here to-day for that purpose, and we will be here to-morrow for that purpose. If they are not adopted, who are to blame but those Senators who are absent from their seats to-day? I pledge myself to vote for every measure that has for its object the reduction of taxation—the relief of the people from the burdens which they are now laboring under, and the restoration of the State of Louisiana to her once prosperous condition. We can make this a prosperous and happy State if we try, and I believe the Senators present are ready and willing to do so. If these absent Senators do not present themselves and prove their sincerity by their acts, as we have done, they should be placed upon the record as enemies to the State—enemies to wholesome and wise legislation; friendly to confusion, friendly to anarchy, friendly to robbery, friendly to all the train of evils which follow revolution, when cut-throats are let loose upon the community, and the power of the law is paralyzed. I say that they must come here and act with us in the passage of proper laws, or lay themselves liable to the accusation of bringing upon the community all the evils that I have mentioned. It is proper that these resolutions should go before the people in order that they may read in letters of fire the danger which threatens them from the inauguration of the evils portrayed in the preamble. I understand that the seventeen Senators present pledge themselves to reform, and I am glad that I am able to say so. It is the welcome evidence that a brighter era is dawning upon a darkened State. Let us stand together like men, knowing our rights, knowing our dignity, knowing the responsibility of our positions, and daring to do our duty though the heavens fall.

Mr. Barber—I regret very much Mr. President, that my poor ability will not permit me to express my sentiments upon this question as I would wish, but in view of the extraordinary circumstances which demand our attention at the present time, I do not think it proper to allow the opportunity to pass without saying a few words upon the resolutions now before the Senate. It is well known to every one that great political changes have taken place in this country within the last few years, resulting in the enfranchisement of a race which had been in a state of servitude, and deprived, in consequence, of all the advantages enjoyed by other men. Unacquainted as we are with political matters, yet I conceive (and I wish to impress this fact upon the mind of every one within the sound of my voice) that there are many among us who have sufficient penetration to understand what is right and just, and what we should do in the interest of those who have selected us to represent them in the halls of legislation. Now, Mr. President, the Senators who have absent themselves from the Senate Chamber for the past week are directly violating the trust reposed in them by their constituents, for they have pledged themselves to come here and pass such laws as the interests of the people demand. Where are they to-day? Upon what pretext do they absent themselves from their seat? Why are they not here to cast their votes in favor of those measures of reform which they have pledged themselves upon the various rostrums throughout the State to support? They were elected as honest and honorable men—as men who would do their duty fearlessly as legislators, and yet their seats are vacant. Do they expect to redress the grievances of which the people complain by remaining on the revenue cutter Wilderness, or by going outside of the jurisdiction of the State on the Chattanooga railroad? It strikes me that the best evi-

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